

MPTAO Against Federal Tax

Seven Theatres Open In Dom'n

Seven new theatres opened recently in the Dominion and two more were scheduled to begin operating later this month to add to Canada's growing list of motion picture houses. In addition, permits were taken out for four new theatre projects in three

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'Life With Father' Dates Set Here

Haskell M. Masters, Canadian district manager for Warner Brothers, recently visited New York to confer with Ben Kalmenzon, vice-president and general sales manager, and Jules Lapidus, eastern and Canadian division sales manager. Among mat-

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Calls For Relief To Public At Earliest Possible Date

Passing of a resolution protesting the continuance of the 20 per cent federal amusement tax on theatre tickets and the election of 12 officers to serve as its 1948 executive board highlighted the annual meeting of the Motion Picture

No Flat Buys For Canadian Rights?

A strong rumor from Ottawa has it that the Foreign Exchange Board will ban the purchasing of Canadian exhibition rights from USA producers for flat sums. Independent exchanges here will have to set up percentage deals.

Reason is said to be a desire to have USA-headed Canadian dollars move out slowly and over a longer period.

Independent distributors here are upset and are raising vigorous objection. An official report of the new regulations is expected any day.

Plottel SRO Rep In West'n Canada

Joseph Plottel has been named sales manager in charge of Western Canada for Selznick Releasing Organization by Charles Weiner, general manager of the company's Canadian division. His headquarters are in Winnipeg and his territory will extend from

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Sask'n Added 95 Situations In '46

The Province of Saskatchewan had 516 licensed places for the exhibition of motion pictures during 1946. The theatres licensed with the Theatres and Cinematographs branch, department of labor, consisted of 24 in cities, 73 in towns, and 419 in villages

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Ont. Cabinet Officers Praise Industry

Members of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario heard two officers of the Ontario cabinet, the Honorable Leslie M. Frost, KC, Provincial treasurer, and the Honorable Russell T. Kelley, minister of health, praise the record of the Canadian motion picture industry and emphasize its importance in the future development of the Province at the luncheon which followed the annual meeting in Toronto.

Others introduced as speakers by Clare Appel, MPTAO vice-president who acted as chairman, were the Honorable J. Earl Law-

(Continued on Page 3)

'Corkscrew Alley'

Dennis O'Keefe will have the lead in Eagle-Lion (Hollywood) Films' forthcoming "Corkscrew Alley."

Opposition Grows To Hollywood Probe

The investigation being carried on in Washington by the House Committee on UnAmerican Activities, which has been featured importantly in many USA and Canadian newspapers, has been denounced by leading industry executives and actors. The charge is that there has been powerful Communist penetration in Hollywood.

Thomas L. Stokes, writing to the Toronto Daily Star from the scene of the probe, said that "It would be more comfortable if you could take the current investigation of the movies by the House unAmerican activities

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Film Of Penologist

RKO will film "The Story of Warden Laves," from the life of the late famous American penologist.

'NO UNCANADIAN PROPAGANDA'

Propaganda of an unCanadian nature has not been included in any of the films submitted for approval to the Ontario censor board, Canadian Film Weekly was told in answer to such a question. Neither the individual censors nor the board are aware of questionable footage.

Much of what would be classified as unAmerican would at the same time be unCanadian and the question is an interesting one in view of the current Washington probe.

"Hollywood and British producers have kept quite free of anything unCanadian," stated O. J. Silverthorne, chief Ontario censor. "We have had no need to deal with pictures from that standpoint.

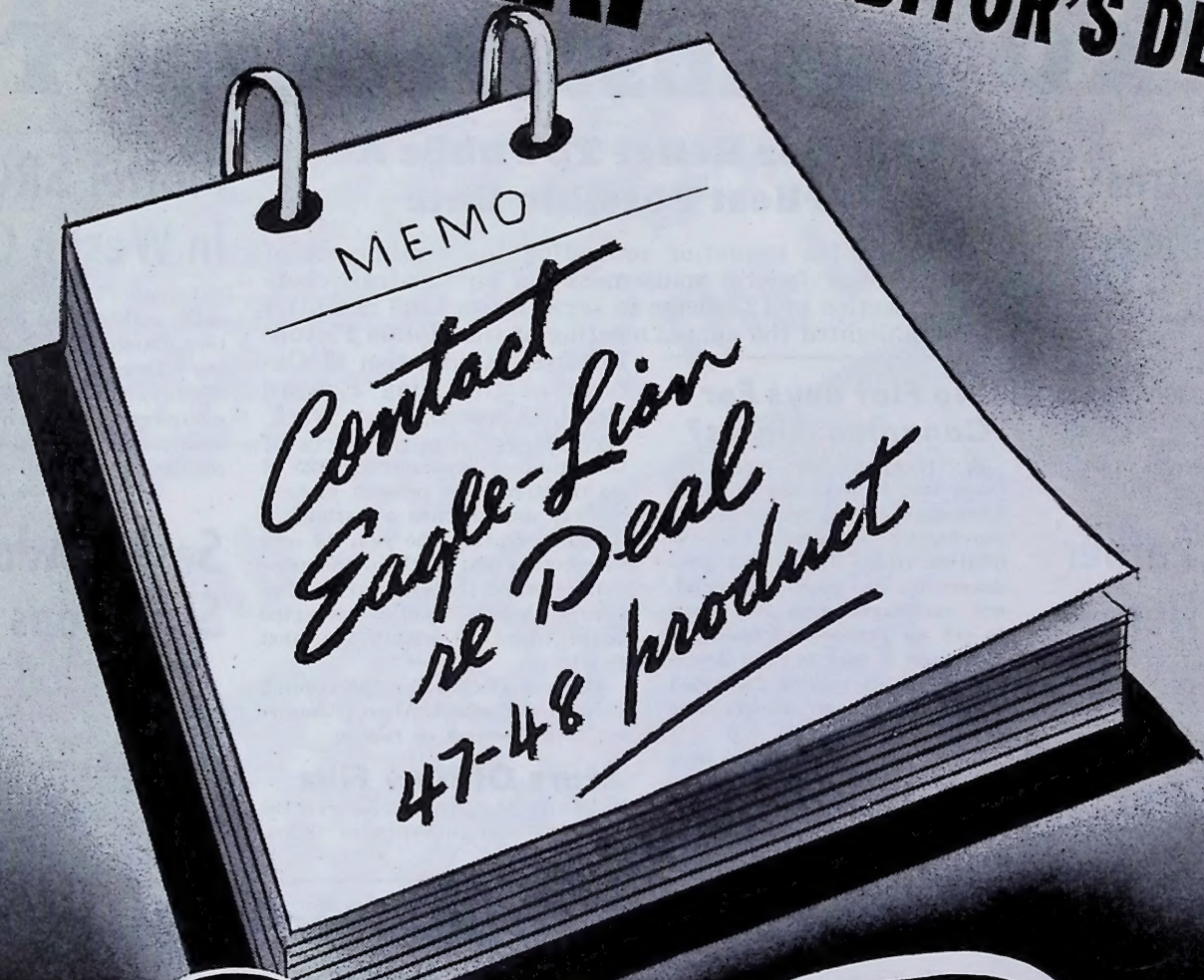
The board eyes 500 features and 2,000 shorts yearly.

WATCH for the BIG ONES from EAGLE-LION (Hollywood)

RELEASED IN CANADA THRU

INTERNATIONAL FILM DISTRIBUTORS LIMITED (Successor to PRC)

ON THE **SMART** EXHIBITOR'S DESK



THIS TRADE MARK AND
"J. ARTHUR RANK
P R E S E N T S"
ARE COMPLETELY
Pre-Sold!



OUR SELLING + YOUR SELLING
ADDS UP TO TOP GROSSES !!

Cabinet Ministers Praise Industry

(Continued from Page 1)

son, KC, managing director of Odeon Theatres of Canada, and John J. Fitzgibbons, MBE, president of Famous Players.

"The motion picture industry is one with a very clean record in the Province of Ontario and I'm glad to have anything to do with it," said Mr. Frost, who is the senior officer of the Motion Picture Censorship and Theatre Inspection branch. "We have a big job in the development of our natural resources, the extension of social welfare and a host of other things. In our lifetimes we may double our population and it is up to all to help. The people of Ontario and of any province or country must have clean amusement."

Although there were occasional differences, Frost stated, he would like the opportunity of paying tribute to the industry. "Taking the situation overall," he said, "the motion picture industry is doing a big job. There are little objections here and there but in the main it does great work. Those connected with our branch are anxious for co-operation and don't want a mass of legislation. We want to give co-operation to those who run the business and serve the public. As a representative of the government, I wish you well."

The address of the Honorable Russell T. Kelley, who spoke last year also, was a thoroughly enjoyable one delivered in humorous and sentimental fashion and marked by a number of amusing anecdotes.

"You people don't talk enough about the work you do," he told the listeners. "Have faith in your industry, be proud that you're in it and believe that you are contributing something to the people of our country."

He believed in the decentralization of industry, he said, and had for years been advocating good preachers, lawyers, doctors, theatres and hospitals for small towns.

"You fellows from small towns have a great job to do. This country is bound to have 30 per cent of its people living in farms. That being so, we want to provide the things we have in the cities. A good show is as important as anything you can put in that town." He reiterated that the industry hadn't sold itself enough and described himself as "your ally, your friend."

The Honorable J. Earl Lawson spoke highly of the work of the association and said that "your pre-eminence in the field of public relations today is large-

Theatre Men Oppose Taxing Of Public

(Continued from Page 1)

Operating Corporation; Clare Appel, Odeon Theatres; Ralph Dale, National Theatre Services; Sam Fine, B & F Theatres; Jack Hunter, Hamilton; H. C. D. (Dick) Main, Listowel; Roy Miller, St. Catharines; Lou Rosefield, Hamilton; Floyd Rumford, Forest; Morris Stein, Famous Players; William Summerville, Jr., B & F Theatres; and N. A. Taylor, Twentieth Century Theatres. All but Miller and Rosefield served last year. Those elected will meet shortly to name the president and other executives.

The meeting, conducted by President Joe Garbarino, heard various committee heads or those acting for them deliver reports on finances, membership, Capax negotiations, tax matters, anti-smoking bylaws, 16 mm. exhibition, the Canadian License Agreement, grading of pictures, restrictive legislation on overhanging signs and marquees, and hydro electric conservation.

Many of the subjects were covered by Arch H. Jolley, executive secretary, in his report, and it was shown that successful action was taken against imposition of smoking and sign restrictions and in the postponement of a Provincial amusement tax. In the interest of public relations Jolley spoke before 36 service club meetings in 23 communities during the year.

The tax resolution, moved by Morris Stein and seconded by Harry Alexander, reads as follows:

WHEREAS the Dominion Government as a wartime emergency measure imposed a 20 per cent Excise Tax on admissions to theatres, and whereas the amount of such tax was beyond what any Government could

ly due to your energetic secretary, Arch Jolley."

John J. Fitzgibbons stressed the importance of "leaving behind some kind of heritage other than dollars." Every week the association has an opportunity of doing something good," he stated, "and with your new officers I know you will keep doing that."

Among the guests at the head table were O. J. Silverthorne, Chief Ontario censor and head of the theatre branch, and W. J. Scott, Provincial fire marshal.

expect its citizens to pay in peace time, and whereas it was only because of the National emergency that the individual was asked to bear the burden of these extra taxes for the purposes of prosecuting the war,

AND WHEREAS the National emergency has ceased to exist and the conditions of this country have rapidly changed to a degree that this tax has become increasingly onerous, and since Motion Picture entertainment is an essential part of the way of life of our people, and should not be subject to unreasonable restriction by way of excessive and discriminating taxation, particularly affecting people of smaller incomes, and children, who constitute the greater part of the patronage of Motion Picture Theatres;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Association in annual meeting assembled go on record as respectfully submitting to the Dominion Government a request that this tax be eliminated at the earliest possible date.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to The Honorable D. C. Abbott, KC, Minister of Finance.

Bill Bendix Cast In 'Connecticut Yankee'

William Bendix is the latest addition to the cast being assembled around Bing Crosby for "A Connecticut Yankee," Paramount's film version of the famed Mark Twain story. Tay Garnett will direct and Robert Fellows will produce the film from a screen play by Edmund Beloin, with an original musical score and song numbers by Johnny Burke and James Van Heusen.

Paul Douglas Joins Eagle-Lion Films

Paul Douglas, director of public relations with Warner Brothers in Canada since the resignation of Glenn Ireton, has succeeded Tony Beacon as advertising and publicity director for Eagle-Lion Films of Canada. Announcement was made by Frank Fisher, general manager of Eagle-Lion.

Beacon, originally from the USA, resigned to return there.



JOE PLOTTEL

Newly appointed Western Canada sales manager for the Selznick Releasing Organization.

Posen Partner In Sarik Theatres

Curly Posen, Allied Co-Operative head booker, has entered into a partnership with Lisha Sarik for the operation of the new theatre in Humberstone, Ontario, and the Vogue, Toronto.

Posen will assume responsibility for every phase of operation and will book both houses through Allied Co-Operative. His position with that agency will not be affected by the deal.

'Life With Father' Dates Set Here

(Continued from Page 1)
ters discussed was the handling of "Life With Father" in the Dominion.

Sid Kain and Bernie Serlin, field exploitation men working out of the New York office, will be in Toronto shortly to confer with Masters on the launching of "Father" in Canada.

The Canadian premiere will take place November 13 at the Capitol, Winnipeg. Picture is also scheduled for November 17 at the Capitol Theatre, Regina, and the Capitol, Edmonton. The Toronto opening takes place either November 20 or 27. Other dates already set include Capitol, Calgary, and Strand, Vancouver, November 24; Capitol, London, December 1; Capitol, Halifax and Capitol, Saskatoon, December 8; Capitol, Kingston, December 9; Algoma, Sault Ste. Marie, January 7; Capitol, Moose Jaw, and Capitol, Ottawa, January 12; Loew's, Montreal, January 16; and Capitol, Saint John, January 26.

Film Weekly

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At the Meeting of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario



IPS Holds First Fall Meeting

The Toronto Chapter of the International Projection Society held its first meeting of the fall and winter season recently at the Labor Temple. Guest speaker for the occasion was Don Spring of Canadian Kodak Sales Limited, who illustrated his talk with two motion pictures, one showing every step in the exacting process of manufacturing film from the raw product to the finished stock and the other one a beautiful color exhibit.

A question and answer period after the showing gave Spring a chance to enlarge on the subject and an opportunity to members to enhance their knowledge.

'Hollow Triumph' To Star Paul Henreid

Paul Henreid has been signed for the starring role in Hollywood Eagle-Lion's "Hollow Triumph," based on the best-selling novel by Murray Forbes. Steven Szekely will direct from a screenplay by David Fuchs.

Role will be a change of pace for Henreid. In "Hollow Triumph" he will portray a psychiatrist whose lust for success leads him to a hectic career of mingled romance and murder.

Important matters bearing on exhibition in Ontario were discussed at the recent annual meeting of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario, held at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto. These pictures were taken at the luncheon in Vanity Fair.

The first photo in the left vertical panel shows, left to right, Ben Freedman, president and representative of the Independent Motion Picture Exhibitors Association of Ontario; Herbert Allen, Premier Operating Corporation; B. C. Salamis, representative of the Quebec Allied Theatrical Industries; Gordon Lightstone, general manager of Paramount Film Service; and O. J. Silverthorne, head of the Ontario Motion Picture Censorship and Theatre Inspection branch.

The second photo shows a group of those present and the third John J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players Canadian Corporation, and the Honorable Russell T. Kelley, Ontario minister of health, who was one of the guest speakers.

The first photo in the right vertical panel shows Morris Stein, Famous Players; N. A. Taylor, president of Twentieth Century Theatres; and W. J. Scott, chief fire marshal of Ontario.

The second photo shows Joe Garbarino, president of the MPTAO; the Honorable J. Earl Lawson, KC, managing director of Odeon Theatres of Canada; and the Honorable Leslie M. Frost, KC, Ontario Provincial Treasurer, who addressed the gathering.

The third photo shows some of those present.

Melvyn Douglas In 'Mortgage On Life'

Melvyn Douglas steps into one of the starring roles in RKO Radio's "Mortgage on Life" after he has completed his role with Cary Grant and Myrna Loy in "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House."

"Mortgage on Life" is a modern and sophisticated drama with a music business background.

Added To Cast Of 'Coroner Creek'

Edgar Buchanan and William Bishop were assigned by Columbia to featured roles in "Coroner Creek," which stars Randolph Scott and Marguerite Chapman. Harry Joe Brown will direct the cinecolor filmization of Luke Short's Saturday Evening Post serial, with Ray Enright directing.

Hollywood E-L Is Non-Rank Co.

In the last issue we referred to Eagle-Lion (Hollywood) Films as "J. Arthur Rank's American producing company." That's wrong. The company belongs to Robert H. Young and its only connection with Rank is a reciprocal distribution arrangement. Young's company distributes Rank's films in the USA and Rank's company distributes Young's films in the United Kingdom.

In Canada Eagle-Lion (Hollywood) Film's product is distributed by International Films, successor to PRC.

'Bishop's Wife' For Command Perf.

"The Bishop's Wife," has been selected in competition with current and unreleased American films for showing at the second annual Royal Command Performance before their Majesties, at the Odeon Theatre in London on November 25th.

Produced by Samuel Goldwyn and released by RKO Radio pictures, the film stars Cary Grant, Loretta Young and David Niven. Entire proceeds will benefit the Cinematograph Trade Benevolent Fund.

Hollywood Probe Criticized

committee as a comedy. It has aspects of that, what with the self-righteousness, artificiality and stuff-shirtism common to Hollywood as well as the committee."

British newspapers commented caustically on the Hollywood inquiry, which has been page one news in Britain.

Newspapers of the left, centre and right alike used such terms as "Hollywood witch hunt," "nauseating spectacle" and "antics of a circus load of film stars."

American newspapers have expressed suspicion of the investigation. Speaking of Thomas, the chairman, the New York Herald Tribune said that "To date he has brought forth nothing to make the whole affair seem anything more than an attempt to seek personal aggrandizement on the tax-payers' funds."

Jack Warner, Louis B. Mayer, Adolph Menjou, Gary Cooper, Ronald Reagan, Robert Montgomery and George Murphy were among those who took the stand. Warner, stating that he had refused to renew the contracts of a number of writers because he did not like their political ideas, said he wouldn't know a Communist if he met one. On the list, which was submitted secretly to the committee, were four writers whose pictures he had praised most. Three of them were hired later by Louis B. Mayer of MGM, who told the committee that while there were two or three reported Communists in his company, examination and re-examination had revealed nothing subversive in their work.

Menjou named a number of actors who had associations of which he did not approve, mainly because of their sympathy with the Conference of Studio Unions (AFU) and among them were two Canadians, Hume Cronyn and Alexander Knox.

It is generally agreed that nothing definite has emerged from the investigation except bad publicity for the motion picture industry by witnesses who were vague. Invitations to name films in which propaganda has been planted were pointedly ignored.

In the meantime other responsible members of the motion picture industry in Hollywood have grown exceedingly wrathful at the conduct of the investigation and those whose appearance served only to discredit the business rather than provide facts to justify the probe. Eric Johnston, president of the American Motion Picture Producers Association, wrote to Representative J. Parnell Thomas, chairman of the committee, that "if the motion

Johnston, McNutt and Stars Claim Investigation Is Not Fair or Well Founded

(Continued from Page 1)

picture industry were seeking to propound doctrines hostile to our free American society, this fact could hardly be kept a secret from the American people. They would have discovered it long ago and told us so. The American people vote daily at the box-office."

Paul V. McNutt, counsel for the producers' association and formerly a leading figure in USA political life, demanded that the committee furnish a list of "tainted" films and said that the charge of Communist penetration "has fallen under its own weight." Senator Claude Pepper of Florida suggested to witnesses that they refuse to answer questions which "censor" thinking or speech.

"Outraged and disgusted" by the kind of investigation being conducted, 35 Hollywood stars, among them Cornel Wilde, Katharine Hepburn, Gregory Peck, Myrna Loy and Eddie Cantor, took trade paper ads to express their indignation. "Americans for Democratic Action," an organization of liberals and progressives

headed by Leon Henderson, with Melvyn Douglas as California chairman, took trade paper ads addressed to Chairman Thomas and stating that "unless you conduct your hearing in the American tradition of fair play for all witnesses and tolerance for all viewpoints, you will injure both Hollywood and your committee."

A group of stars prepared to speak at a mass meeting to be held at the St. Nicholas Arena, New York, at which the probe would be condemned as undemocratic interference with freedom. In the meantime another group, among them Humphrey Bogart, Marsha Hunt, Paul Henreid, Evelyn Keyes, June Havoc and Danny Kaye, flew to Washington to protest against what it called a "censorship of fear" and the menace to freedom of speech and thought.

Some of the comments of the British press, as gathered by the Associated Press, are:

Viscount Astor's Sunday Observer, Independent Conservative, said:

"The present Red scare in

America is no doubt stimulated by the Canadian spy revelations and the consequent fear that atom secrets might be stolen, but it would be a poor bargain to keep the atom secrets and lose the freedoms which are the secret of America's greatness."

The left-of-centre Reynolds News said the "atmosphere" of America was such that "it takes courage even to express the mildest liberal ideas," adding:

"As Sam Goldwyn might have (and probably has) said: 'If Roosevelt were alive today, he would turn over in his grave.'"

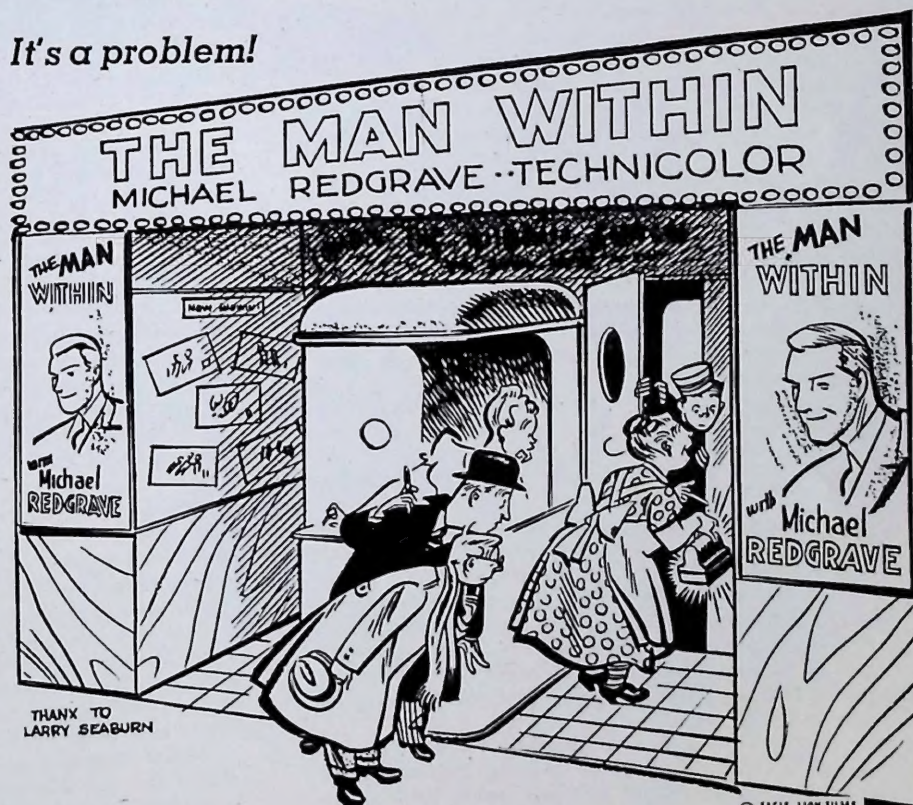
The Conservative Sunday Chronicle's Washington correspondent, Clifford Hulme, cabled of the investigation's subjects:

"In some of them the pink is so pale they would barely qualify for membership in the (British) National Liberal Club, while the Conservative Party's industrial charter would scare them stiff."

The People, left-of-centre, said: "Britain's hopes that we might mediate between the two mighty contestants (the United States and Russia) have been thrown down by the preposterous 'red' hunt among the film stars in Hollywood."

The Spectator, Conservative weekly, said the state cannot impose restraint upon art "as in Russia, without making both state and art look ridiculous."

It's a problem!



"Take the dinner pail into my old man — he wants to see the feature twice!"

Problems of Publication



Lines and Outlines

We Think We're Right

Total billings of Canada's ad agencies in 1946 was \$52.1 millions, an increase of 19.4 per cent over the \$43.6 millions in 1945.

Wonderful—for somebody else, not us. Ours is down considerably—and in the face of much greater cost of production. As far as we are concerned, the Canadian trade press never did get its share of world film trade press advertising expenditures. Now we hear reliably that in New York, headquarters city, they are figuring on slashing trade press advertising as part of the retrenchment caused by the British tax.

May we add, with a smile on our face and a quaver in our voice, that that ain't good? That red on our books doesn't come from the bookkeeper's fingernails, brother.

How come? For one thing, there are fewer films—but that hasn't affected the USA trade press, which circulates freely in Canada. There are 13 important USA trade papers which reach our exhibitors and some have Canadian rates.

Would a decline in Canadian film revenue have anything to do with it? No—it has been rising for years.

Perhaps our troubles are due to an attitude we don't agree with. Canadian representatives and their USA employers don't seem interested in Canada's right to its own trade press. But we honestly think that the industry preachers of international goodwill and national rights—among them Balaban, Skouras and Eric Johnston—would take a different point of view if the matter was put before them properly. The social institutions of any country are entitled to support derived from earnings and this is recognized in the USA, Great Britain, France and other countries. Why not in Canada? Is it because we are part of the USA domestic setup, with Canada being just another division or district?

We have our own people, our own country and our own aspirations. We ought not take it for granted that it's all right for USA magazines to act as our trade press. On that principle we ought to close up our daily papers and our weekly magazines and import USA periodicals with a Canadian page or two.

Trade papers are parasites, said one man, who apparently doesn't share the opinion as to their worth held by his USA superiors. There are too many trade papers both in the USA and Canada, said another, and there is duplication. Very well—but we'd rather rely on the current policy of the USA chiefs on that question. We just ask that we be allowed to share things as they stand now.

In 1945 Canadian film rental reached over \$17,000,000, with almost all of it being earned by USA companies. It's divided between expenses of domestic operation and remittances to the USA. Salaries and wages of 23 film companies in 1945 amounted to \$1,991,667.

If Britain insists on adhering to its recent regulation that just 25 percent of British rentals can leave the country, Canada's return will be just as great as that of the United Kingdom—and it has four times our population.

We do not claim discrimination—just a lack of interest. We do get some excellent ads—but we don't get enough. Enough, that is, for profitable operation—enough in comparison to our USA contemporaries. Some kind of proportionate representation will suit us fine.

It is generally expected that Ottawa will institute measures shortly that will restrict remittance of film money to the USA.

The Australian plan, agreed to by Hollywood, is to block 30 per cent of the current income. This money can be spent domestically on (a) production of films, (b) payment of capital debts, (c) capital expenditures on improvements, (d) employees' pension fund, (e) real estate investment of a permanent nature relating to the company's business interests, and (f) government and industrial securities.

The Commonwealth Bank of Australia administers the agreement. In Canada it would be the Bank of Canada. Perhaps when Canadian regulations come into effect they will name trade press advertising as one of permitted means of expenditure.

After all, there's nothing wrong with a very human desire to stay in business.

Will-o'-the-Whispers

Harold Kay has resigned from the sales staff of Eagle-Lion and will enter the exhibition field on an important scale . . . Also departed from E-L is Tony Beacon, the company's recently-acquired publicist . . . Toronto barkers were among those invited to celebrate the founding of Variety by the first tent, Pittsburgh. . . . Philosophical phrase: "It all seemed so important at the time." . . . They're still talking about the fine way Clare Appel chairmanned the MPTAO luncheon . . . The Honorable Russell T. Kelley, Provincial minister of health, noticed an old friend during his speech and said: "The City of Hamilton is much richer because we have George Stroud there."

Kelley, an excellent teller of tales, has a homespun style that appeals to all.

He told a story about a man watching two trains moving toward a head-on crash. After the accident the man commented: "Now isn't that a helluva way to run a railroad!"

That, Kelley said, was how second-guessers looked at the government administrators.

Heard about a tot returned from her first day at school who said to her mother: "There isn't much use of me going to school. I can't read or write" . . . UA tied up with the Tribune to give \$10 to the first person each day for a week who walked up to a character dressed like Charlie Chaplin in his latest role and said: "You are the Tribune's M. Verdoux" . . . The confirmation of Al Daniels' bright boy, piano-playing Stanley, was celebrated with a fine hotel party. Stan appeared recently on the Buckingham "Curtain Time" program . . . Fox backed "Amber" in Canada with coloured display ads in the 900,000-Toronto Star Weekly and the 300,000-Montreal Standard. That's in addition to Life, Look, etc.

A personal nod to the Globe and Mail's James Y. Nichols for his human story on the passing of Manny Feder. Manny, a gambler, made his money in a way not approved of by Society but when it came to giving it out to the needy, his hand was never slow. You couldn't help but like him personally. He was just as much the product of our type of civilization as the rest of us. As a Red Feather speaker, trying to explain why in the days of our greatest prosperity 66 charities had to be supported, said: "Civilization has many complexities."

One film man taunting another: "You looked better the day you died" . . . Jack Boothe, Globe and Mail cartoonist and son of Odeon's J. Howard, is around again after severe injuries from a flying outboard motor, which came loose and attacked him . . . Fellow-irkers: Guys who throw away burning matches . . . This sign on a church is worth repeating here: "Four things come not back—the spoken word, the spent arrow, the passed life and the neglected opportunity." Now they tell me. . . . Ex-CBC news chief, Wells Ritchie, is now editor of Mayfair, you exploiters might like to know.

Cartoon suggestion: Tourist disembarking at Shanghai asks porter: "Which way is Chinatown?" . . . A certain local pug, when kidded about "walking on your heels," (the phrase meaning punch-drunk), always yanks a new pair of rubber ones out of his pockets and retorts: "See, they aren't even worn yet!" . . . A shoe man tells me that button shoes will be the newest style. If that sort of thing keeps up we'll be going back to silent films. . . . Manitoba exhibits' bulletin reports that Winnipeg distrib chiefs were invited to the official opening of a jail's projection booth and adds that "Many old acquaintances were renewed." . . . Mush Singer, you'll be glad to hear, is back again at his old stand in the Hermant Building. He was recently seriously wounded by a lone stickup artist. . . . Double bill on a local marquee: "This Love of Ours" and "Slightly Scandalous" . . . Held too late to make this issue, the Twentieth Century Theatre's convention will be fully covered in the next one.

TOGETHER AGAIN!
HUMPHREY BOGART
and
LAUREN BACALL

in
**DARK
PASSAGE**



*From the spectacular
SATURDAY EVENING POST
serial comes this great
entertainment from*

**Warner
Bros.**

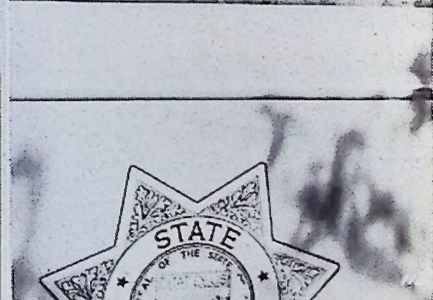
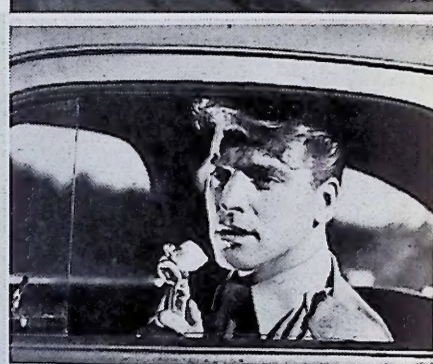
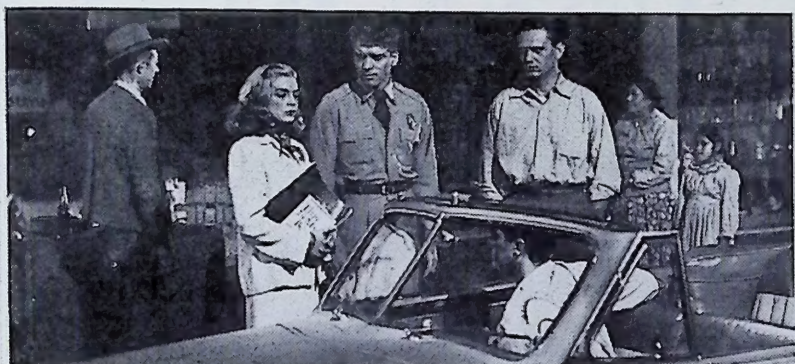
WITH
BRUCE BENNETT · AGNES MOOREHEAD · TOM D'ANDREA
DIRECTED BY
DELMER DAVES · JERRY WALD · PRODUCED BY
SCREEN PLAY BY DELMER DAVES
FROM THE NOVEL BY DAVID GOODIS
MUSIC BY FRANZ WAXMAN





Para's Technicolored 'Desert Fury'

PARAMOUNT'S "Desert Fury," a Hal Wallis Technicolor production, is a smooth blend of western-type action with present-day racketeers in a fast-moving story of gamblers in a desert city and their loves and crimes. Starring John Hodiak, Lizabeth Scott and Burt Lancaster, it is a strikingly unusual picture and as such should send the moviegoers home impressed.



Frieda

with David Farrar, Mai Zetterling
Eagle-Lion 97 Mins.
COMPELLING DRAMA TASTEFULLY,
COMPASSIONATELY TREATED; FINE
PERFORMANCES.

Concerning itself with the problem of how to treat the enemy in the course of war and thereafter, this J. Arthur Rank number from the Ealing Studios deals out compelling drama. It is almost too leisurely as it makes its points.

The case herein concerns a British flyer who was shot down in Poland. In order to escape, get back to England, he marries a German girl, a nurse, bestowing upon her British citizenship in the process. In due time he returns to England. His wife is that in name only. They were married via the Catholic ceremony. He is a Protestant and another ceremony is planned.

The England they return to is still in the throes of war and the townspeople of Henfield and David Farrar's immediate family make their feelings known. Mai Zetterling remains quiet, unobtrusive. In six months, she is advised, the folk will come to accept her and the initial enmity will be forgotten. Flora Robson, Farrar's aunt, is up for election to Parliament. Her stand in the matter is that as long as there is a Germany and Germans there will be war. She is coolly civil to Miss Zetterling.

The initial prophecy of acceptance in six months is fulfilled. The war ends. But trouble in the form of Miss Zetterling's brother, Albert Lieven, is at the door. A former member of the Afrika Corps, he fought for Poland when the opportunity came. He is from Posnan, it seems, and was given choice in the matter. But he is a thoroughly-dyed Nazi and is exposed. Farrar when this comes out is disgusted. Miss Zetterling attempts to take her life. Miss Robson, realizing humans cannot be treated as if they were less human without inhumanity the ultimate result, warns Farrar. He saves the girl.

CAST: David Farrar, Glynis Johns, Mai Zetterling, Flora Robson, Albert Lieven, Barbara Everest, Gladys Henson.

CREDITS: Producer, Michael Balcon; Director, Basil Dearden; Production design, Michael Relf; Based on an original story by Ronald Millar.

DIRECTION, Effective. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

Father And Son Star

Jack Holt and son, Tim, will star in RKO's "The Arizona Ranger."

Forever Amber

with Linda Darnell, Cornel Wilde, Richard Greene, George Sanders
26th Century-Fox 140 Mins.
MONUMENTAL PRODUCTION BRILLIANTLY PRODUCED, DIRECTED AND
ACTED GIVES A SOUND HONEST RETURN FOR EVERY CENT SPENT OR ASKED.

Darryl Zanuck has done splendidly by "Amber." In the two hours and 20 minutes that it takes to tell the story there is created a motion picture of monumental stature. It is BIG in every interpretation of the word. Its potentialities in terms of the boxoffice dollar should prove a staggering problem for the showman's consideration. And in terms of value to the ultimate ticket-buying spectator it gives sound, honest return for every cent.

The Technicolored tapestry that is the story has many values, optical as well as dramatic, comical at times and vividly thrilling, too. Complementing the story is William Perlberg's production that brings to lusty life the settings and period—England of the 17th Century, under the reign of Charles II. It is one of the finest examples of mounting a plot and translates the Kathleen Winsor novel into what might be termed the best example of Technicolor handling by Hollywood in recent times.

There are patterns in that tapestry that vary the basic plot to give full range to striking segments of action and narrative developments which contribute considerably to the telling. Otto Preminger's direction is evident in a flowing, fluid continuity which aptly captures the essence of the novel. In this respect the multitude that read and re-read the book, then discussed it, then drooled at announcement that it was to be filmed, won't be disappointed.

Selection of the cast was masterful. Linda Darnell in the title role is a vivid "Amber" and her beauty in Technicolor has a breathtaking quality. Among the men in her life it is good to see Richard Greene once again; Wilde as her big moment in a torrent of lovers shows himself a player of sound understanding of what is required. But among the male element it is George Sanders, as Charles II, who stands out, makes his mummery register in a fine display of artistry.

In translating the story such proven audience lures as the great fire which partially destroys London, a duel at dawn, the plague, skullduggery purveyed by a gang of rascally cutthroats and cut-purses, revenge and kindred morsels of diversion are blended into the whole.

Through all the pageantry "Forever Amber" is the story of a woman in love who vainly sought happiness with the man she loves but loses.

As "Amber" Linda Darnell is shown as a founding who is brought up by Puritans in a small village. Reaching womanhood, plans are made for her to marry. This is not to her taste. She encounters Wilde in a tavern where he is resting en route to London. Later she follows and their passion is born and assuaged.

Never quite fitting into the picture as a Puritan maid who set her cap for the big time Miss Darnell desired marriage with Wilde at the outset but he indicated she was below him in life's station. She vowed to rise even higher than he. She did it, too, passing from man to man until she wound up in the arms of the king, and with a title.

Wilde returns from Virginia with a young wife who Miss Darnell brings to the attention of Sanders. An intimate supper is arranged. Miss Darnell feigns illness, leaves Sanders and Jane Ball together. She hurries to inform Wilde of the situation hoping to regain her former spot in his life. The king suspects, so does Miss Ball and the plan misfires. Underestimating Sanders, Miss Darnell has let herself out. Her son is taken off to Virginia by Wilde. The day she is moved she is propositioned by the king's equerry—and she accepts. Through it all Richard Greene, friend to Wilde, is the kindly bystander advising her, lying occasionally and vainly trying to dissuade Miss Darnell to no avail.

CAST: Linda Darnell, Cornel Wilde, Richard Greene, George Sanders, Glenn Langan, Richard Haydn, Jessica Tandy, Ann Rye, Jane Ball, Robert Coote, Leo G. Carroll, Natalie Draper, Margaret Wycherly, Alma Kruger, Edmund Breon, Alan Napier.

CREDITS: Producer, William Perlberg; Director, Otto Preminger; Screenplay, Philip Dunne, Ring Lardner, Jr.; Adaptation, Jerome Cady; From the novel by Kathleen Winsor; Photography, Leon Shamroy; Music, David Raksin.

DIRECTION, Excellent. PHOTOGRAPHY, Splendid.

Desert Fury

with John Hodiak, Elizabeth Scott, Burt Lancaster, Mary Astor
Paramount 95 Mins.
STUNNING, TECHNICOLOR PRODUCTION FOR WESTERN GANGSTER OPUS THAT PACKS TOP-SELLING FEATURES.

This one is straight from a long line of successful tough guy pictures and should click solidly with devotees of the clipped, razor-thin dialogue. Elizabeth Scott as Paula Haller, beautiful, 19-year-old daughter of the middle-aged boss of a wide open town, Mary Astor, chucks finishing school to come back to her tough, domineering mother, who loves her but pushes her around too much.

Paula tosses off a few amorous scenes with a young highway cop, Tom Hanson (Burt Lancaster) but her heart isn't completely in it. She finally falls for a hood from out of town, Eddie Bendix (John Hodiak) who seems to be well-known to her mother, the cop, and everybody else, and they all agree he's a no good guy. Paula, match, goes on in her typically headstrong way and inveigles her way under his tough hide and he soon begins to smile, though he always looks as though he could haul off and sock her if she made a false move. Passion is high and the two are soon on friendly terms, though much head shaking goes on from the observant onlookers to the affair. Principal objector is Johnny Ryan (Wendell Corey) Hodiak's pal who is with him in his desert hideout.

After a number of developments the climax comes when Paula, on her flight with Eddie, picks up Johnny, who begs for a hitch to town. On his way, he reveals to Paula what a thorough-going heel Eddie really is. He also uncovers some nasty business about the demise of Eddie's first wife. Johnny turns out to have been the dominating force behind Eddie's viciousness, with Eddie merely the tool. Eddie shoots and kills Johnny after the revelation, and in a running chase of Paula, who escapes his clutches in a car, he crashes to his death, after the cop, Tom, catches up with the chase.

CAST: John Hodiak, Elizabeth Scott, Burt Lancaster, Mary Astor, Kristine Miller, William Harrigan.

CREDITS: Producer, Hal B. Wallis; Director, Lewis Allen; Screenplay, Robert Rossen; Original Novel, Ramona Stewart; Photography Directors, Charles Lang, Edward Cronjager.

DIRECTION, Excellent. PHOTOGRAPHY, Superb.

Plottel SRO Rep In West'n Canada

(Continued from Page 1)

that city to Vancouver. His appointment followed that of Larry Druxerman, recently of Empire-Universal Films, as sales manager for Eastern Canada, with offices in Montreal.

The news coincided with the visit to Toronto of Milton S. Kusell, vice-president in charge of domestic and Canadian sales. While here Kusell set the release date for "The Paradine Case," the next film to be offered to exhibitors by SRO's Canadian sales structure, the Canadian Selznick Studio Releasing Division, Inc.

Plottel, formerly in charge of sales for Monogram, had been out of the industry for some time and was associated with his brothers, Ben and Ernest, in the ready-to-wear business in Vancouver. Ben was at one time with Empire-Universal and the other Plottel boys, Mark and Les, are with that company now.

In the industry over 30 years, he was with Warner Brothers for 22 of them until his resignation in July, 1945, at which time he was manager of the Toronto branch.

He entered the business through Universal in Chicago in 1916 and after six months resigned to enlist in the Canadian Army at the age of 17 for service in the first World War. On his return he re-entered the industry, joining Select Pictures as a Winnipeg salesman. Except for his recent connection he has been in the film business ever since.

RKO Buys Novel

"Our Son Pablo," novel by Alvin and Darley Gordon, has been purchased by RKO Radio. Dore Schary, executive vice president in charge of production, is scheduling it for his studio's 1948 program.

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Seven New Theatres Open In Canada

(Continued from Page 1)

different provinces and good progress on construction was reported for two others.

Odeon Theatres of Canada Limited has added two new units to its circuit. In Montreal, the 750-seat, \$200,000 Odeon-Crema-zie held its premiere performance and in Guelph the 998-seat Odeon-Guelph did likewise. Both were designed by the company's late head architect, Jay I. English, and embody the latest improvements in luxury and comfort. Both are air-conditioned and both have sacrificed seating capacity for seating convenience, with wider aisles and roomier fully-cushioned seats.

The Paramount Theatre in Amherst, NS, an 800-seat F. G. Spencer-Famous Players enterprise, finally opened after a long delay caused by shortage of interior fittings. The Strand in Amherst will close shortly. It is also an F. G. Spencer-FPCC house, as is the only other in the town, the 820-seat Capitol.

Gerald Spencer's Acadia Theatre, the first theatre to operate in Wolfville, NS, in many months, opened recently.

In Campbellford, Ontario, the 450-seat Aaron Theatre made its bow. Built by Mrs. Rappaport, it will be operated by Ray Lewis and is the second in that town, the other being Foto-Nite's 350-seat Hollywood.

Northern Carleton County of New Brunswick got its first theatre with the cutting of the tape on the doors of the Green's Theatre in East Florenceville. Built by G. Green and Sons, the house will seat 490 and has a snack bar and a candy counter in the lobby.

G. Broughton and A. Winch recently opened their \$40,000 theatre in Bancroft, Ontario, the first there.

The two houses that are scheduled to be completed later this month are Douglas Wark's project in Burk's Falls, Ontario, and Harland Rankin's 300-seat Erie Theatre in Wheatley, Ontario. Both are first in their locations.

Village council of Grimshaw, Alberta, has given permission for the building of a 300-seat theatre by Michael Rabchack. Business men of the community are financing the purchasing of a double lot for the project. Also in Alberta, a permit has been granted by the town of St. Paul for the erection of the New Elite Theatre.

The controversy over the erection of a 650-seat structure on Toronto Island seems to have been settled and the builders have

purchased a site on Manitou Road and are retaining architects to design plans.

A Montreal bylaw was amended recently by City Council after much debate to permit General Theatres (Quebec) to erect a theatre on St. Denis Street that would be less than the required 500 feet from the nearest church. Permit was finally granted after the parish priest of St. Jean Baptiste Church stated that he had no objection even though the theatre would only be 311 feet from the church as the entrance would be on a different thoroughfare.

Installation of Canada's first two prefab houses, from National Theatres Sales, Toronto, began in Brampton and Acton, Ontario. The houses, to seat 400 and 625 respectively, are Odeon enterprises.

Foundation work has been completed on Emile Forest's 380-seat, \$35,000 project on St. Vital Boulevard in Montreal North and actual construction has started. In Ocean Falls, B.C., work is progressing on the 500-seat theatre being built by Pacific Mills Limited as part of a large erection program that includes a hotel, apartment houses, duplex dwellings and girls' dormitories. The whole townsite is a company project and will accommodate some 2,500 people, mostly employees of Pacific Mills.

The 350-seat addition to Twentieth Century Theatres' Elgin in Ottawa is also slated to open in November.

Hartman To Produce

Don Hartman's first assignment under his new producer-director contract with RKO will be the film version of the Eleanor Harris short story, "Every Girl Should Be Married."

Hervey Comeback In Cinecolor 'Mickey'

Ending her four-year absence from the screen, Irene Hervey has signed a contract to return to films in the feminine lead of Eagle-Lion (Hollywood) Films' Cinecolor production, "Mickey," it was announced by Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of production at Eagle-Lion Studios, who signed Miss Hervey for the role.

Miss Hervey, last seen on the screen in Universal's "He's My Boy" in 1943, will be recalled for her outstanding performances in such films as "Destiny Rides Again," "Destination Unknown," "The Boys From Syracuse" and many other top hits.

Sask'n Added 95 Situations In '46

(Continued from Page 1)

and in other places.

In 1945 there were 421 movie theatres in Saskatchewan—23 in cities, 73 in towns, and 325 in villages and elsewhere.

The report of R. C. Vaughan, administrator of theatres and public halls, shows that in 1946 a total of 654 public halls was licensed, compared with 670 in 1945. Operators examined numbered 145, of which 14 received first-class licenses, 44 second-class, 69 third-class while 18 failed.

In 1945 there were 98 operators examined.

Altogether 704 operators held provincial licenses to operate movie machines in 1946, compared with 569 in 1945. Of this total 123 held first-class certificates; 127 second-class, 208 third-class, while 246 held miniature machine certificates.

There were 77 itinerant exhibitors licensed by the theatres branch, an increase of 40 over the total in 1945.

The report shows that miscellaneous licenses issued—theatre, public hall, operators, apprentice, exhibitors, etc.—totalled 2,895 in 1946, compared with 2,430 in 1945.

'Oklahoma Blues'

"Oklahoma Blues" has been set by Monogram as the next starring vehicle for Jimmy Wakely, singing cowboy star, who returned recently from a personal appearance tour of the southwest.

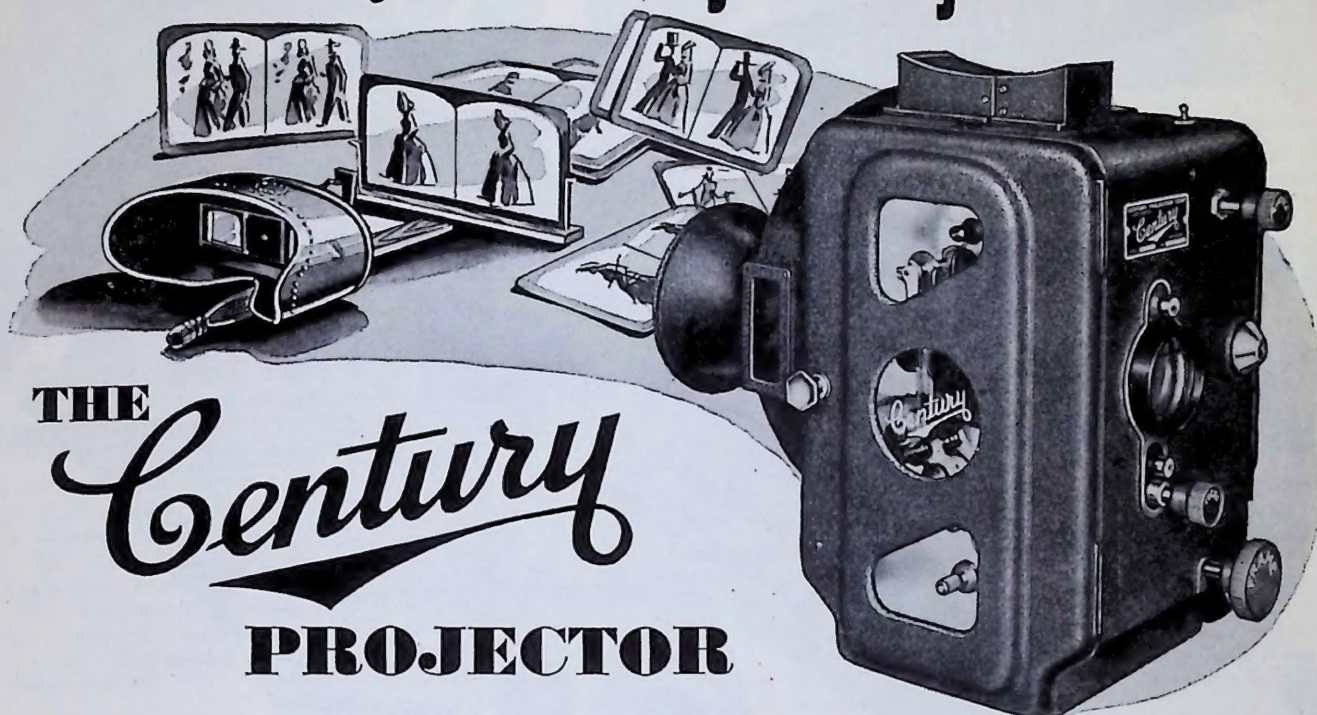
Selznick Star Cast In Paramount Film

Rhonda Fleming, who was seen in "Spiral Staircase," has been chosen by Paramount for the role of Alisande, opposite Bing Crosby, in "A Connecticut Yankee At King Arthur's Court." She is being borrowed from David O. Selznick, to whom she is under contract.

Sixteen Hollywood actresses were tested for the part over a period of several months. It affords Miss Fleming an opportunity to sing a duet with Crosby and a solo number, both composed by Johnny Burke and James Van Heusen.

Paramount's arrangement with Selznick provides for Miss Fleming's services in other films to follow the Crosby musical. She recently completed her first starring role in "Adventure Island," a Paramount release. She joins an outstanding cast which includes William Bendix, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Murvyn Vye, Virginia Field, Henry Wilcoxon and Richard Webb.

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